

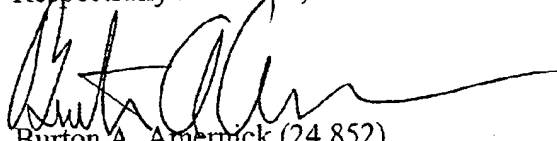
wherein the aldehyde compound © is at least one member selected from the group consisting of formaldehyde, hexamethylenetetramine, paraformaldehyde, furfural, acetaldehyde and salicylaldehyde.

23. (Amended) A heat curable composition comprising the polymer according to Claim 12.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to improve their format. None of these amendments is believed to involve any new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that the application as so amended receive an examination on the merits, and that the claims as now presented receive an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Burton A. Amermick (24,852)

Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036-3425
Telephone: 202-331-7111

Date: 3-14-01

APPENDIX – MARKED UP SET

3. (Amended) The heat-curable composition according to Claim 1 [or 2]

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has its main chain produced by the atom transfer radical polymerization of a vinyl monomer.

4. (Amended) The heat-curable composition according to [any of Claims 1 to 3]

Claim 1

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer is obtainable by the procedure comprising

(1) producing a halogen-terminated vinyl polymer by atom transfer radical polymerization and

(2) converting the terminal halogen of said polymer to a phenol group-containing substituent group.

5. (Amended) The heat-curable composition according to [any of Claims 1 to 4]

Claim 1

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has its main chain produced by polymerizing a (meth) acrylic monomer.

8. (Amended) The heat-curable composition according to [any of Claims 1 to 4]

Claim 1

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has its main chain produced by polymerizing a styrenic monomer.

9. (Amended) The heat-curable composition according to [any of Claims 1 to 8]

Claim 1

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has a ratio (Mw/Mn) of weight average molecular weight (Mw) and number average molecular weight (Mn) as measured by gel permeation chromatography of less than 1.8.

10. (Amended) The heat curable composition according to [any of Claims 1 to 9]

Claim 1

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has a number average molecular weight of 500 to 100,000.

11. (Amended) A shaped article

as obtainable by curing the heat-curable composition according to [any of Claims 1 to 10] Claim 1.

14. (Amended) The polymer according to Claim 12 [or 13]

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has its main chain produced by the atom transfer radical polymerization of a vinyl monomer.

15. (Amended) The polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 14] Claim 12

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer is obtainable by the procedure comprising

(1) producing a halogen-terminated vinyl polymer by atom transfer radical polymerization and

(2) converting the terminal halogen of said polymer to a phenol group-containing substituent group.

16. (Amended) The polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 15] Claim 12

wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has its main chain produced by polymerizing a (meth) acrylic monomer.

19. (Amended) The polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 15] Claim 12
wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has its main chain produced by
polymerizing a styrenic monomer.

20. (Amended) The polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 19] Claim 12
wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has a ratio (M_w/M_n) of weight average
molecular weight (M_w) and number average molecular weight (M_n) as measured by gel
permeation chromatography of less than 1.8.

21. (Amended) The polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 20] Claim 12
wherein the (A) component vinyl polymer has a number average molecular
weight of 500 to 100,000.

22. (Amended) The polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 21] Claim 12
wherein the aldehyde compound © is at least one member selected from the group
consisting of formaldehyde, hexamethylenetetramine, paraformaldehyde, furfural,
acetaldehyde and salicylaldehyde.

23. (Amended) A heat curable composition
comprising the polymer according to [any of Claims 12 to 22] Claim 12.